of Rajasthan had forwarded nine numbers of proposals, amounting to Rs. 34,836 crore, under the Inter State Connectivity Scheme for the development of State Roads for in-principal approval during 2007-08. Keeping in view the availability of funds and *inter-se* priority, four numbers of proposals amounting to Rs. 15.329 crore, out of these proposals, have been approved in-principle. No proposals for according in-principle approval for development of State Roads under the Economic Importance Scheme was received from the State Government of Rajasthan during 2007-08.

Allocation for Rajasthan NH Works

1526. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH *GORDIA*

Will the Minister of SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that allocation for Rajasthan under National Highway Original (NH) Works is approximately 1.33 lakhs/kilometer of NH length, which is the lowest in the country and much lower than the allocation for other major States; and

(b) the action Government is taking for enhancement of allocation of funds for maintenance of NHs in the major States like Rajasthan and Uttarakhand to atleast bring it at par with national average?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The allocation for National Highways Original (NH) Works are made to the States depending upon the condition of the NHs, the works sanctioned for development/improvement of NHs and overall availability of funds.

(b) The State-wise allocation of funds are made for carrying out various types of maintenance and repair (M&R) activities of NHs, such as Ordinary Repairs (OR), Periodical Renewal (PR), Flood Damage Repairs (FDR) and Special Repairs (SR), depending upon the overall availability of funds, length of NHs entrusted with the concerned States as well as their lane configurations, outstanding commitments for sanctioned works for FDR and SR, etc. and progress of expenditure.

Road Accidents and Compensation to Victims

1527. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMAA. HEPTULLA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that India tops in the world in road accidents accounting for over one lakh deaths per year;

(b) whether Government is aware that Delhi happens to be on the top with 2167 deaths in 2006;

(c) if so, the road safety norms Government visualizes to reduce such accidents;

(d) whether Government would have stringent laws with due compensation to victims; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The World Road Statistics, 2007, which provides the data for the year 2005 in respect of India, indicates that the number of persons killed in road accident in India was 94968, whereas the number of persons killed in road accident in China was 98738.

(b) As per data made available by the State/UT Governments, the number of deaths in road accidents in Delhi during the year 2006 (latest data available) is 2169.

(c) The safety of road users is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, this department has taken several steps to improve road safety for the road users which are as under:

(i) Road safety is the integral part of road design at the planning stage for National Highways/Expressways.

(ii) Various steps to enhance road safety such as road furniture, road markings/road signs, introduction of Highway Traffic Management System using Intelligent Transport System, enhancement of discipline among contractors during construction, road safety audit on selected stretches, have been undertaken by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

(iii) Refresher training to Heavy Motor Vehicle drivers in the unorganized sector.

(iv) Involvement of NGOs for road safety activities by Department of Road Transport and Highways and NHAI.

(v) Setting up of Model Driving Training School in the country by Department of Road Transport and Highways.

(vi) Publicity campaign on road safety awareness through audio-visual print media by Department of Road Transport and Highways.

(vii) Institution of National Award for voluntary organizations/individual for outstanding work in the field of road safety by Department of Road Transport and Highways.

(viii) Tightening of safety standards of vehicles.

(he) Provision of cranes and ambulances to various State Governments/NGOs under National Highways Accident Relief Service Scheme. National Highways Authority of India also provides ambulances at a distance of 50 Km. on each of its completed highways under its Operation & Maintenance contracts.

(x) Widening and improvements of National Highways from 2 lanes to 4 lanes and 4 lanes to 6 lanes etc.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.